

public facility, this Federal facility in his honor.

He is survived by his wife Lisa and his 6-year-old daughter Maria, and to them we send the Nation's condolences on your great loss of yesteryear and our optimism on a more promising future because of what the Captain Woods do so often for so many.

Captain Wood was born and raised in upstate New York's beautiful Mohawk Valley. He was an accomplished athlete at Notre Dame Junior Senior High School, and if you are from our neck of the woods, you know those teams are just dynamite. He excelled at both football and track and field.

He was also, and this is very important, a superstar in the classroom. He graduated not just from Cornell University but later earned master's degrees from both the State University at New York in Albany and State University at New York in Cortland.

In the Armed Services, Captain Wood served for 8 years in the 4th Infantry Division in Fort Hood, Texas, and there he became fascinated with the history of our great military. As a matter of fact, Captain Wood dreamed of teaching history and coaching football at the West Point Military Academy. Had he not paid the ultimate price for our way of life, I am confident that he would have seen this dream become a reality.

Captain Wood's discipline, his love of learning and his fine character have made him a model citizen for all of his countrymen and generations to come, a true role model, a genuine American hero.

Both Captain Wood's father and his granddad worked at the Pitcher Street Post Office, so there is a special affinity for the post office in the Wood family, and it would be our utmost pleasure and distinct honor to designate the facility at Utica, New York, as the Captain George A. Wood Post Office Building in honor of a true American hero.

I want to thank my colleagues in the majority and the minority and on the committee for dealing with this very important issue. Oftentimes, as we deal with the major issues that affect so many people around the world, we sometimes neglect the littler things, but they are equally important. They are very personal. They have real meaning for so many, and I thank my colleagues for their support and their cooperation. I urge all of my colleagues to proudly vote "aye" for this measure.

Mr. CLAY. Madam Speaker, I urge the swift passage of this bill. I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I urge all Members to support the passage of H.R. 4962, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. MARCHANT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4962.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF A SALVADORAN-AMERICAN DAY

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 721) supporting the goals and ideals of a Salvadoran-American Day (El Dia del Salvadoreño) in recognition of all Salvadoran-Americans for their hard work, dedication, and contribution to the stability and well-being of the United States.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 721

Whereas the aftermath of 40 years of internal political turmoil forced hundreds of thousands of individuals in the Republic of El Salvador to flee that country and seek peace and security in a new country, the United States;

Whereas Salvadoran-Americans constitute a significantly growing population in the United States, with the majority living in the Los Angeles metropolitan area, the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area, and various other areas in the United States;

Whereas the history of the United States is a rich and enduring tapestry woven with the threads of many remarkable lives, cultures, and events, and the lives, work, and artistry of Salvadoran-Americans have added strength, vitality, and purpose to that tapestry;

Whereas the maturing Salvadoran-American community continues to make great economic and cultural contributions to daily life in the United States;

Whereas many of these Salvadoran-Americans actively participate in the United States educational system, further promoting their sense of American pride within communities in this country;

Whereas Salvadoran-American families should have an established day to acknowledge the contribution and value of their culture to the United States;

Whereas the strength of the Salvadoran-American culture can be preserved and passed on to future generations;

Whereas Salvadoran-American families, communities, and generations that follow are committed to maintain both Salvadoran and American cultures, while promoting cultural interchange;

Whereas free of prejudices and as proud men and women, Salvadoran-Americans participate and contribute to the social, educational, professional, and political systems of the United States;

Whereas Salvadoran-American individuals, families, organizations, and communities in cities and States across the Nation wish to share the establishment of a nationally recognized and celebrated Salvadoran-American Day (El Dia del Salvadoreño), beginning on August 6, 2005, and to be celebrated by all generations that follow;

Whereas on August 6, 1525, the official founding of Villa De San Salvador was declared in the Valle de las Hamacas (Valley of the Hammocks) where the indigenous ancestors of El Salvador fought historic battles against the submission and abuse of Spanish colonialism in order to preserve the life and liberty of the Cuscatleco population; and

Whereas August 6 is a day of recognition for Salvadoran-Americans to celebrate

throughout the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives supports the goals and ideals of a Salvadoran-American Day (El Dia del Salvadoreño) in recognition of all Salvadoran-Americans for their hard work, dedication, and contribution to the stability and well-being of the United States.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. MARCHANT) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 721 offered by the distinguished gentlewoman from California (Ms. SOLIS). This resolution would support the goals and ideals of a Salvadoran American Day.

Currently, thousands of Salvadoran Americans reside in the United States, mostly within California, the Washington, D.C. area, and New York. August 6 marks the date of the celebration of Fiestas Agostinas, an observance that dates back to 1525, paying homage to the cultural festivities of El Salvador, and is widely observed by the Latino community in the United States.

This day has grown in significance over the years as the Salvadoran-American community has matured and adapted the holiday to fit the lives of Salvadorans living in the United States. Living in a country built by offerings from many cultures and nationalities, Salvadorans have brought forth many economic and cultural contributions to weave into the American fabric.

I urge all Members to come together to pay homage to many Salvadoran Americans that are thriving in our society today by adopting H. Res. 721.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CLAY. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, 40 years of political turmoil forced many individuals from the Republic of El Salvador to flee the country in search of peace and security in the U.S. Currently, there are over 900,000 Salvadoran Americans living in the U.S. The majority of them have found new homes in California, New York, and the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area.

The history of the U.S. is a rich and enduring tapestry woven with the threads of many remarkable lives, cultures and events. The lives, work, and

artistry of Salvadoran Americans have added strength, vitality and purpose to that tapestry.

The Salvadoran-American community continues to make great economic and cultural contribution to the United States. Therefore, I urge my colleagues to support H. Res. 721.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I have no other speakers at this moment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CLAY. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SOLIS), my colleague.

Ms. SOLIS. Madam Speaker, I would like to thank the gentleman from Missouri and obviously the Members of this very important committee that helped to pass this resolution.

Madam Speaker, today, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 721, a resolution supporting the goals and ideals of the Salvadoran American Day, el día del Salvadoreño. I would like to thank Chairman DAVIS and Ranking Member WAXMAN for their support in bringing the resolution to the floor today.

This resolution recognizes the Salvadoran Americans for their hard work, dedication and contributions to our stability and well-being of the United States.

Forty years of internal political turmoil forced thousands and thousands of individuals from the Republic of El Salvador to flee and come to this country. They sought peace and security and a better life in the United States.

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Madam Speaker, my mother was born in Central America, in Nicaragua, and immigrated to the United States to seek a better life. As the only Member of Congress of Central American descent, I am honored to recognize Salvadoran Americans and Salvadoran American Day.

Currently, there are over 900,000 Salvadorans living in the U.S. The majority live in Washington, D.C., New York, California and Miami. In the Los Angeles metropolitan area alone, parts of the district that I represent, there are nearly 300,000 Salvadoran Americans.

This celebration of Salvadoran tradition dates back to August 6, 1525, almost five centuries ago, when the city of Villa De San Salvador was founded. El Día del Salvadoreño marks the culmination of a week-long celebration "Fiestas Agostinas" and is arguably the most important civic-religious celebration in El Salvador. The celebration pays homage to the cultural festivities of El Salvador, while recognizing that Salvadorans have adapted themselves to life in the United States.

Celebrated by Salvadoran Americans in California and throughout the country, this day has grown in significance over the years. Back in 2001, the city of Los Angeles honored Salvadoran American Day, and in 2002 Salvadoran Amer-

ican Day was declared as a statewide event in California. More than 100,000 Salvadorans participated in these celebrations in 2005, and we know and expect we will see more this coming August.

I am proud that Congress is helping to recognize and honor this day. Salvadoran American Day contributes to a positive image for Salvadorans, as well as improving a better understanding between our diverse communities and this part of America.

I would like to recognize and thank the Salvadoran American National Association, known as SANA, the SHARE Foundation, and all of the Salvadoran American and Central American organizations for their support and their work to provide for this resolution.

Let us not forget that our Nation was built by the people from many nations and different backgrounds and cultures. In fact, many of the workers who helped rebuild the Pentagon were of Salvadoran background. They love this country. I urge my colleagues to recognize the Salvadoran Americans and pass this resolution.

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CLAY. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA).

(Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, I certainly would like to thank the gentleman from Missouri for offering me this opportunity to say a few words in support of this resolution.

I certainly want to extend my commendation to the gentlewoman from California for being the chief sponsor of this bill, and I regret to say I should have been an original cosponsor, and I want to be on record that I want to be on as an original cosponsor of this resolution.

Madam Speaker, August 6, 1525 means a lot to the Salvadoran Americans in our country. As the gentlewoman from California said earlier, we almost have a million fellow Americans whose ancestry is from El Salvador.

On August 6, 1525, the official founding of Villa De San Salvador was declared in the Valle de las Hamacas, or the Valley of the Hammocks, where the indigenous ancestors of El Salvador fought historic battles against the submission and abuse of Spanish colonialism in order to preserve the life and liberty of the Cuscatleco population.

This is very significant and important, Madam Speaker, and I certainly want to say that we truly are a Nation of immigrants. Whether you be from South America, and even if you are from Ireland, we can never forget the problems there, the people starving to death, and there was the Irish potato.

Madam Speaker, I don't know why you call it the Irish potato; potato came from America, and that is what

saved millions of our fellow Irish people coming over here to this country.

The interesting thing about it, too, is I have been to Central America and I have been to El Salvador, and I say that for good reason, millions of these people coming from Latin America come to this country why? Because they love freedom, they seek opportunity for jobs, and want the best America has to offer. What's wrong with that?

I think this resolution signifies the importance that we should recognize not only the presence of our fellow Salvadoran Americans, but also the contributions that they made to this great country.

Again, I commend the gentlewoman from California for proposing this resolution and I urge my colleagues to support it.

Mr. HONDA. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 721, legislation introduced by Congresswoman HILDA L. SOLIS that I am proud to have cosponsored. H. Res. 721 supports the goals and ideals of a Salvadoran-American Day (El Día del Salvadoreño).

Currently, there are more than 900,000 Salvadoran Americans living in the United States, with the majority of them living in California, the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area, and New York. In the Los Angeles metropolitan area alone there are nearly 400,000 Salvadoran-Americans.

Today, El Día del Salvadoreño is celebrated among the Latino community in California. This celebration of Salvadoran traditions dates back to 1525 when the city of Villa De San Salvador was founded.

The history of the United States is a rich and enduring tapestry woven with the threads of many remarkable cultures and events, and the lives, work, and artistry of Salvadoran-Americans have added strength, vitality, and purpose to that tapestry.

As a former Peace Corp volunteer in El Salvador, I experienced first hand the culture, hard work and dedication of the people. I commend Salvadoran-Americans for their resilience and contribution to the stability and well-being of the United States. I also thank the estimated 800 Salvadoran nationals who are currently serving in the U.S. military for their efforts on behalf of the security of our country.

The Salvadoran-American community continues to make great economic and cultural contributions to daily life in the United States, and I am proud to support H. Res. 721 and the goals and ideals of Salvadoran-American Day.

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today in firm support of H. Res. 721, which supports the goals and ideals of a Salvadoran-American Day (El Día del Salvadoreño) in recognition of all Salvadoran-Americans for their hard work, dedication, and contribution to the stability and well-being of the United States.

Salvadorans form an integral part of our communities and our labor force. My district in Northern Virginia, for example, is home to many hard-working Salvadorans who pay taxes and consume U.S. products. Salvadorans also play an important role in the economy of their native country by sending billions of dollars in payments to their families in Central America every year. The remittances that

these individuals send to their families are a large source of revenue, which the United States could not match in foreign aid. As a result, after suffering through a string of brutal civil wars, El Salvador now has a moderate, democratically-elected government.

Madam Speaker, in closing it is all too easy to overlook the important and daily contributions that Salvadorian Americans have made not just to Northern Virginia, but to our Nation as a whole. This bill provides much needed and deserved recognition to the Salvadorian American community for the indelible mark they have made upon the diversity and prominence of our great nation. I urge an "aye" vote.

Mr. CLAY. Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H. Res. 721, supporting the goals and ideals of Salvadorian American Day, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I urge Members to support H. Res. 721, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. MARCHANT) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 721.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CONGRATULATING ITALY ON WINNING THE 2006 WORLD CUP

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 908) congratulating Italy on winning the 2006 Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) World Cup, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 908

Whereas for the first time in 24 years, the Italian National Soccer Team won the Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) World Cup;

Whereas Italy is one of the most successful countries in World Cup history, reaching the finals 6 times and winning 4 championships, in 1934, 1938, 1982, and 2006;

Whereas the 2006 championship is due in large part to the extraordinary leadership of head coach Marcello Lippi and team Captain Fabio Cannavaro;

Whereas in 2006, team Italy (known as "Azzurri" or simply "the Blue") went undefeated in World Cup play and won the final game in only the second World Cup Championship to be determined by shoot-out;

Whereas in winning the World Cup, the Italian National Soccer Team faced adversity and overcame setbacks;

Whereas the vibrant culture and heritage of Italy were brought to our Nation by millions of Italian immigrants;

Whereas Italian Americans have made significant contributions to our Nation in all fields of endeavor;

Whereas Italian Americans rejoiced in the victory of the soccer team of their ancestral homeland, many spontaneously celebrating in American neighborhoods throughout our Nation;

Whereas all Americans can take pride in the knowledge that the United States National Soccer Team was the only team that Italy was unable to defeat during this World Cup, needing to settle with a 1-1 tie; and

Whereas the fans of the Italian National Soccer team, many hailing from the United States, represent some of the most enthusiastic in the world: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives congratulates Italy and the Italian National Soccer team on winning the 2006 Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) World Cup.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) and the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Florida?

There was no objection.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to request my colleagues' support for H. Res. 908, a resolution congratulating Italy on winning the 2006 Federation Internationale de Football Association, or FIFA, World Cup.

On July 9, 2006 the Italian team, known affectionately in Italy as Azzurri, or "The Blue," secured its place as one of the most successful teams in World Cup history, having reached the finals six times and having just won its championship.

Under the leadership of Coach Marcello Lippi and Captain Fabio Cannavaro, the Italian team went undefeated in World Cup play. I must point out in a bit of national pride that the only team Italy was unable to defeat was our very own United States National Team, with whom Italy tied 1-1.

The Italian championship at the FIFA World Cup highlights the vibrant culture and the heritage of Italy, the same vibrant culture and heritage brought to America by millions of Italian immigrants that has enriched and continues to enrich our great Nation through countless contributions to every aspect of our society.

This is a proud heritage that is shared by millions of Italian Americans, and a pride which extends to the Italian National World Cup team. Countless Americans throughout the United States rejoiced at Italy's success, and it is with a hearty "bene fatto" that I extend congratulations to Italy and to the Italian International Soccer team on winning the 2006 FIFA World Cup. I urge my colleagues to do likewise by agreeing to this resolution.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) for the management of this legislation.

Madam Speaker, just over a week ago I had the tremendous pleasure of watching the thrilling finale of the World Cup championship match in Germany. As the winning penalty kick zipped past the French goalkeeper, I felt the joy of millions of Italians as they celebrated their historic fourth World Cup victory. For that matter, the entire planet with billions of people witnessing this special event, the number one sport in the world, not American football, I beg to say, Madam Speaker.

The Italians are known for the passion they exhibit in every endeavor they undertake. I cannot agree more with that. Whether it is in art, literature, mathematics, business or especially soccer, Italians all over the world pour their heart and soul into every task they assume.

Madam Speaker, this passion has led great men like Christopher Columbus, Amerigo Vespucci, Constantino Brumidi, Enrico Fermi and captains of industry A.P. Giannini, to contribute to the rock-solid foundation on which this country is built. Not to mention some of my favorite singers, Mario Lanza, Frank Sinatra, Tony Bennett, Perry Como, and the list goes on. This passion has also contributed mightily to the strong alliance between Italy and the United States since the end of World War II. Our bond with Italy kept the Soviet menace at bay during the decades of the Cold War.

Today, Italy aids in the fight for democracy. Our Italian allies fight, bleed, and even die to bring democracy to the people of Afghanistan and Iraq.

This passion was unabashedly unleashed in the worldwide celebrations following the Italian national soccer team's historic victory in Germany. I, for one, reveled in the images of our Italian friends singing and dancing around the world.

In all this praise for Italy and its fantastic soccer team, I would like to congratulate the fans who traveled to Germany to support their beloved Azzurri, as the national soccer team is known. During the month-long tournament, the fans were a model of civility and good spirits.

Madam Speaker, the Italian fans, along with those from 31 other nations, enjoyed the beautiful country of Germany and all of its 64 thrilling soccer matches without any major incidents.

Finally, I would like to commend those involved with the security of the World Cup tournament. As we all know, this kind of world gathering, unfortunately, presents potential terrorist opportunities as well as other